#### 105TH CONGRESS 2D SESSION

# S. 1710

To provide for the correction of retirement coverage errors under chapters 83 and 84 of title 5, United States Code.

#### IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

March 4, 1998

Mr. Cochran (by request) (for himself, Mr. Levin, Mr. Leahy, Mr. Stevens, Mr. Robb, Mr. Warner, Mr. Sarbanes, and Ms. Mikulski) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Governmental Affairs

## A BILL

To provide for the correction of retirement coverage errors under chapters 83 and 84 of title 5, United States Code.

- 1 Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-
- 2 tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,
- 3 That this Act may be cited as the "Retirement Coverage
- 4 Error Correction Act of 1998".
- 5 SEC. 2. FINDINGS AND PURPOSE.
- 6 The Congress finds that a number of Government
- 7 employees have been placed under erroneous retirement
- 8 coverage during the transition from the Civil Service Re-
- 9 tirement System to the Federal Employees Retirement

- 1 System. When these errors are of significant duration,
- 2 they adversely affect an employee's ability to plan for re-
- 3 tirement. It is the purpose of this Act to provide a remedy
- 4 that treats all such individuals fairly and reasonably, and
- 5 demonstrates the Government's concern for its employees
- 6 who have been disadvantaged by a Government error in
- 7 their retirement coverage. Affected employees should have
- 8 a choice between corrected retirement coverage and the
- 9 benefit the employee would have received under the erro-
- 10 neous coverage, without disturbing Social Security cov-
- 11 erage law.

#### 12 SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.

- For the purposes of this Act—
- 14 (1) "Annuitant" means an individual described
- 15 by section 8331(9) or 8401(2) of title 5, United
- 16 States Code;
- 17 (2) "CSRS" means the Civil Service Retirement
- 18 System established under subchapter III of chapter
- 19 83 of title 5, United States Code;
- 20 (3) "CSRS covered" means subject to the pro-
- visions of subchapter III of chapter 83 of title 5,
- 22 United States Code, including full CSRS employee
- 23 deductions;
- 24 (4) "CSRS Offset covered" means subject to
- 25 the provisions of subchapter III of chapter 83 of

| 1  | title 5, United States Code, including reduced CSRS   |
|----|---|
| 2  | employee deductions;                                  |
| 3  | (5) "Director" means the Director of Office of        |
| 4  | Personnel Management;                                 |
| 5  | (6) "FERS" means the Federal Employees Re-            |
| 6  | tirement System established under chapter 84 of       |
| 7  | title 5, United States Code;                          |
| 8  | (7) "FERS covered" means subject to the pro-          |
| 9  | visions of chapter 84 of title 5, United States Code; |
| 10 | (8) "OASDI employee tax" means the Old Age,           |
| 11 | Survivors and Disability Insurance tax imposed on     |
| 12 | wages under section 3101(a) of the Internal Reve-     |
| 13 | nue Code of 1986;                                     |
| 14 | (9) "OASDI employer tax" means the Old Age,           |
| 15 | Survivors and Disability Insurance tax imposed on     |
| 16 | wages under section 3111(a) of the Internal Reve-     |
| 17 | nue Code of 1986;                                     |
| 18 | (10) "OASDI taxes" means the sum of the               |
| 19 | OASDI employee tax and OASDI employer tax;            |
| 20 | (11) "former employee" means an individual            |
| 21 | who formerly was a Government employee, but who       |
| 22 | is not an annuitant;                                  |
| 23 | (12) "Office" means the Office of Personnel           |
| 24 | Management;   |

| 1  | (13) "Retirement coverage determination"                    |
|----|---|
| 2  | means the determination by an agency whether em-            |
| 3  | ployment is CSRS covered, CSRS Offset covered,              |
| 4  | FERS covered, or Social Security only covered;              |
| 5  | (14) "Retirement coverage error" means an er-               |
| 6  | roneous retirement coverage determination that was          |
| 7  | in effect for a minimum period of 3 years of service        |
| 8  | after December 31, 1986;                                    |
| 9  | (15) "Service" means a period of civilian serv-             |
| 10 | ice that is creditable under section 8332 or 8411 of        |
| 11 | title 5, United States Code;                                |
| 12 | (16) "Social Security-only covered" means em-               |
| 13 | ployment under section 3121(b) of the Internal Rev-         |
| 14 | enue Code of 1986, subject to OASDI taxes, but not          |
| 15 | CSRS covered, CSRS Offset covered, or FERS cov-             |
| 16 | ered; and   |
| 17 | (17) "Survivor" means an individual described               |
| 18 | by section 8331(10) or 8401(28) of title 5, United          |
| 19 | States Code.  |
| 20 | SEC. 4. ERRORS OF LESS THAN 3 YEARS EXCLUDED.               |
| 21 | Except as otherwise provided in this Act, an erro-          |
| 22 | neous retirement coverage determination that was in effect  |
| 23 | for a period of less than 3 years of service after December |
| 24 | 31, 1986, is not covered by this Act.                       |

| 1 | SEC    | 5          | SOCIAL | SECURITY-ONLY | COVEDED | EMDI OVEES  |
|---|--------|------------|--------|---------------|---------|-------------|
|   | SHILL. | <b>a</b> . | SUCIAL | SECURITY-ONLY | COVERED | RIVIPLOYERS |

- 2 WHO WERE ERRONEOUSLY CSRS COVERED
- 3 OR CSRS OFFSET COVERED.
- 4 (a) This section applies in the case of a retirement
- 5 coverage error in which a Social Security-only covered em-
- 6 ployee was erroneously CSRS covered or CSRS Offset cov-
- 7 ered.
- 8 (b)(1) This subsection applies if the retirement cov-
- 9 erage error has not been corrected prior to the effective
- 10 date of the regulations described in paragraph (3).
- 11 (2) In the case of an individual who is erroneously
- 12 CSRS covered, as soon as practicable after discovery of
- 13 the error, and subject to the right of an election under
- 14 paragraph (3), such a individual shall be CSRS Offset cov-
- 15 ered, retroactive to the date of the retirement coverage
- 16 error.
- 17 (3) Upon written notice of a retirement coverage
- 18 error, an individual shall have 6 months to make an elec-
- 19 tion, under regulations promulgated by the Office, to be
- 20 CSRS Offset covered or Social Security-only covered, ret-
- 21 roactive to the date of the retirement coverage error. If
- 22 the individual does not make an election prior to the dead-
- 23 line, the individual shall remain CSRS Offset covered.
- (c)(1) This subsection applies if the retirement cov-
- 25 erage error was corrected prior to the effective date of the
- 26 regulations described in subsection (b)(3).

- 1 (2) Within 6 months after the date of enactment of
- 2 this Act, the Office shall promulgate regulations authoriz-
- 3 ing individuals to elect, during the 18-month period imme-
- 4 diately following the effective date of the regulations, to
- 5 be CSRS Offset covered or Social Security-only covered,
- 6 retroactive to the date of the retirement coverage error.
- 7 (3) If an eligible individual does not make an election
- 8 under paragraph (2) prior to the deadline, the corrective
- 9 action previously taken shall remain in effect.
- 10 SEC. 6. SOCIAL SECURITY-ONLY COVERED EMPLOYEES NOT
- 11 ELIGIBLE TO ELECT FERS WHO WERE ERRO-
- 12 **NEOUSLY FERS COVERED.**
- (a) This section applies in the case of a retirement
- 14 coverage error in which a Social Security-only covered em-
- 15 ployee not eligible to elect FERS coverage under authority
- 16 of section 8402(c) of title 5, United States Code, was erro-
- 17 neously FERS covered.
- 18 (b)(1) This subsection applies if the retirement cov-
- 19 erage error has not been corrected prior to the effective
- 20 date of the regulations described in paragraph (2).
- 21 (2) Upon written notice of a retirement coverage
- 22 error, an individual shall have 6 months to make an elec-
- 23 tion, under regulations promulgated by the Office, to be
- 24 FERS covered or Social Security-only covered, retroactive
- 25 to the date of the retirement coverage error. If the individ-

- 1 ual does not make an election prior to the deadline, the
- 2 individual shall remain FERS covered, retroactive to the
- 3 date of the retirement coverage error.
- 4 (c)(1) This subsection applies if the retirement cov-
- 5 erage error was corrected prior to the effective date of the
- 6 regulations described in subsection (b)(2).
- 7 (2) Within 6 months after the date of enactment of
- 8 this Act, the Office shall promulgate regulations authoriz-
- 9 ing individuals to elect, during the 18-month period imme-
- 10 diately following the effective date of the regulations to
- 11 be FERS covered or Social Security-only covered, retro-
- 12 active to the date of the retirement coverage error.
- 13 (3) If an eligible individual does not make an election
- 14 under paragraph (2) prior to the deadline, the corrective
- 15 action previously taken shall remain in effect.
- 16 SEC. 7. CSRS COVERED, CSRS OFFSET COVERED, AND FERS-
- 17 ELIGIBLE SOCIAL SECURITY-ONLY COVERED
- 18 EMPLOYEES WHO WERE ERRONEOUSLY FERS
- 19 COVERED WITHOUT AN ELECTION.
- 20 (a) If an individual was prevented from electing
- 21 FERS because the individual was erroneously FERS cov-
- 22 ered during the period when the individual was eligible to
- 23 elect FERS under title III of the Federal Employees Re-
- 24 tirement System Act of 1986, the individual is deemed to
- 25 have elected FERS coverage and will remain covered by

- 1 FERS, unless the individual declines, under regulations
- 2 promulgated by the Office, to be FERS covered, in which
- 3 case the individual will be CSRS covered, CSRS Offset
- 4 covered, or Social Security-only covered; as would apply
- 5 in the absence of a FERS election, retroactive to the date
- 6 of the erroneous retirement coverage determination.
- 7 (b) In the case of an individual to whom subsection
- 8 (a) applies, who dies prior to discovery of the coverage
- 9 error, or who dies during the election period prescribed
- 10 in subsection (a) prior to making an election to correct
- 11 the error, without having the right to decline FERS cov-
- 12 erage, the individual's survivors shall have the right to
- 13 make the election under regulations promulgated by the
- 14 Office that provide for such election in a manner consist-
- 15 ent with the election rights of the individual.
- 16 (c) This section shall be effective retroactive to Janu-
- 17 ary 1, 1987, except that this section shall not affect indi-
- 18 viduals who made or were deemed to have made elections
- 19 similar to those provided in this section under regulations
- 20 promulgated by the Office prior to the effective date of
- 21 this Act.

#### 1 SEC. 8. FERS COVERED CURRENT AND FORMER EMPLOY-

- 2 EES WHO WERE ERRONEOUSLY CSRS COV-
- 3 ERED OR CSRS OFFSET COVERED.
- 4 (a) This section applies to a FERS covered employee
- 5 or former employee who was erroneously CSRS covered
- 6 or CSRS Offset covered as a result of a retirement cov-
- 7 erage error.
- 8 (b)(1) This subsection applies if the retirement cov-
- 9 erage error has not been corrected prior to the effective
- 10 date of the regulations described in paragraph (2). As
- 11 soon as practicable after discovery of the error, and sub-
- 12 ject to the right of an election under paragraph (2), if
- 13 CSRS covered or CSRS Offset covered, such individual
- 14 shall be treated as CSRS Offset covered, retroactive to the
- 15 date of the retirement coverage error.
- 16 (2) Upon written notice of a retirement coverage
- 17 error, an individual shall have 6 months to make an elec-
- 18 tion, under regulations promulgated by the Office, to be
- 19 CSRS Offset covered or FERS covered, retroactive to the
- 20 date of the retirement coverage error. If the individual
- 21 does not make an election by the deadline, a CSRS Offset
- 22 covered individual shall remain CSRS Offset covered and
- 23 a CSRS covered individual shall be treated as CSRS Off-
- 24 set covered.

- 1 (c)(1) This subsection applies if the retirement cov-
- 2 erage error was corrected prior to the effective date of the
- 3 regulations described in subsection (b)(2).
- 4 (2)(A) Within 6 months after the date of enactment
- 5 of this Act, the Office shall promulgate regulations author-
- 6 izing individuals to elect, during the 18-month period im-
- 7 mediately following the effective date of the regulations,
- 8 to be CSRS Offset covered, retroactive to the date of the
- 9 retirement coverage error.
- 10 (B) An individual who previously received a payment
- 11 ordered by a Court or provided as a settlement of claim
- 12 for losses resulting from a retirement coverage error shall
- 13 not be entitled to make an election under this subsection
- 14 unless that amount is waived in whole or in part under
- 15 section 12, and any amount not waived is repaid.
- 16 (C) An individual who, subsequent to correction of
- 17 the retirement coverage error, received a refund of retire-
- 18 ment deductions under section 8424, or a distribution
- 19 under section 8433, of title 5, United States Code, shall
- 20 not be entitled to make an election under this subsection.
- 21 (3) If an individual is ineligible to make an election
- 22 or does not make an election under paragraph (2) prior
- 23 to the deadline, the corrective action previously taken shall
- 24 remain in effect.

| 1 SEC. 9. ANNUITANTS AND SURVIVORS IN CASES WHER | 1 | SEC. | 9. | <b>ANNUITANTS</b> | <b>AND</b> | <b>SURVIVORS</b> | IN | <b>CASES</b> | WHER |
|--|---|------|----|-------------------|------------|------------------|----|--------------|------|
|--|---|------|----|-------------------|------------|------------------|----|--------------|------|

- 2 FERS COVERED EMPLOYEES WERE ERRO-
- 3 NEOUSLY CSRS COVERED OR CSRS OFFSET
- 4 COVERED.
- 5 (a) This section applies to an individual who is an
- 6 annuitant or a survivor of a FERS covered employee who
- 7 was erroneously CSRS covered or CSRS Offset covered
- 8 as a result of a retirement coverage error.
- 9 (b)(1) Within 6 months after the date of enactment
- 10 of this Act, the Office shall promulgate regulations author-
- 11 izing an individual described in subsection (a) to elect
- 12 CSRS Offset coverage or FERS coverage, retroactive to
- 13 the date of the retirement coverage error.
- 14 (2) An election under this subsection shall be made
- 15 within 18 months after the effective date of the regula-
- 16 tions.
- 17 (3) If the individual elects CSRS Offset coverage, the
- 18 amount in the employee's Thrift Savings Plan account
- 19 under subchapter III of chapter 84 of title 5, United
- 20 States Code, at the time of retirement that represents the
- 21 Government's contributions and earnings on those con-
- 22 tributions (whether or not this amount was subsequently
- 23 distributed from the Thrift Savings Plan) will form the
- 24 basis for a reduction in the individual's annuity, under
- 25 regulations promulgated by the Office. The reduced annu-
- 26 ity to which the individual is entitled shall be equal to an

- 1 amount which, when taken together with the amount re-
- 2 ferred to in the preceding sentence, would result in the
- 3 present value of the total being actuarially equivalent to
- 4 the present value of an unreduced CSRS Offset annuity
- 5 that would have been provided the individual.
- 6 (4) If—
- 7 (A) a surviving spouse elects CSRS Offset bene-
- 8 fits; and
- 9 (B) a FERS basic employee death benefit
- under section 8442(b) of title 5, United States Code,
- 11 was previously paid;
- 12 then the survivor's CSRS Offset benefit shall be subject
- 13 to a reduction, under regulations promulgated by the Of-
- 14 fice. The reduced annuity to which the individual is enti-
- 15 tled shall be equal to an amount which, when taken to-
- 16 gether with the amount of the payment referred to sub-
- 17 paragraph (B) would result in the present value of the
- 18 total being actuarially equivalent to the present value of
- 19 an unreduced CSRS Offset annuity that would have been
- 20 provided the individual.
- 21 (5) An individual who previously received a payment
- 22 ordered by a Court or provided as a settlement of claim
- 23 for losses resulting from a retirement coverage error shall
- 24 not be entitled to make an election under this subsection
- 25 unless repayment of that amount is waived in whole or

- 1 in part under section 12, and any amount not waived is
- 2 repaid.
- 3 (c) If the individual does not make an election under
- 4 subsection (b) prior to the deadline, the retirement cov-
- 5 erage shall be subject to the following rules—
- 6 (1) If corrective action was previously taken,
- 7 that corrective action shall remain in effect; and
- 8 (2) If corrective action was not previously
- 9 taken, the employee shall be CSRS Offset covered,
- retroactive to the date of the retirement coverage
- 11 error.
- 12 SEC. 10. PROVISIONS RELATED TO SOCIAL SECURITY COV-
- 13 ERAGE OF MISCLASSIFIED EMPLOYEES.
- 14 (a) Reports to Commissioner of Social Secu-
- 15 RITY.—In order to carry out the Commissioner of Social
- 16 Security's responsibilities under title II of the Social Secu-
- 17 rity Act, the Commissioner may request the head of each
- 18 agency that employs or employed an individual erroneously
- 19 subject to CSRS coverage as a result of a retirement cov-
- 20 erage error and retroactively converted to CSRS Offset
- 21 coverage, FERS coverage, or Social Security-only coverage
- 22 to report in coordination with the Office of Personnel
- 23 Management, and in such form and within such time
- 24 frame as the Commissioner may specify, any or all of the
- 25 following—

- 1 (1) the total wages (as defined in section 2 3121(a) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986) paid 3 to such individual during each year of the entire pe-4 riod of the erroneous CSRS coverage;
- 5 (2) the excess CSRS deduction amount for the individual; and
- 7 (3) such additional information as the Commis-8 sioner may require for the purpose of carrying out 9 the Commissioner's responsibilities under title II of 10 the Social Security Act.
- 11 The head of an agency or the Office shall comply with
- 12 such a request from the Commissioner. For purposes of
- 13 section 201 of the Social Security Act, wages reported pur-
- 14 suant to this subsection shall be deemed to be wages re-
- 15 ported to the Secretary of the Treasury or the Secretary's
- 16 delegates pursuant to subtitle F of the Internal Revenue
- 17 Code of 1954. For purposes of this section, the "excess
- 18 CSRS deduction amount" for an individual shall be an
- 19 amount equal to the difference between the CSRS deduc-
- 20 tions withheld and the CSRS Offset or FERS deductions,
- 21 if any, due with respect to the individual during the entire
- 22 period the individual was erroneously subject to CSRS
- 23 coverage as a result of a retirement coverage error.
- 24 (b) Adjustment to Transfers Under Section
- 25 201 of the Social Security Act.—Any amount trans-

- 1 ferred from the General Fund to the Federal Old-Age and
- 2 Survivors Insurance Trust Fund and the Federal Disabil-
- 3 ity Insurance Trust Fund under section 201 of the Social
- 4 Security Act on the basis of reports under this section
- 5 shall be adjusted by amounts previously transferred as a
- 6 result of corrections made (including corrections made be-
- 7 fore the date of enactment of this Act), and shall be re-
- 8 duced by any excess CSRS deduction amounts determined
- 9 by the Director of the Office of Personnel Management
- 10 to be remaining to the credit of individuals in the Civil
- 11 Service Retirement and Disability Fund or in accounts
- 12 maintained by the employing agencies. Such amounts de-
- 13 termined by the Director in the preceding sentence shall
- 14 be transferred to the Federal Old Age and Survivors In-
- 15 surance Trust Fund and the Federal Disability Insurance
- 16 Trust Fund in the proportions indicated in sections 201
- 17 (a) and (b) of the Social Security Act.
- 18 (c) Application of OASDI Tax Provisions of
- 19 THE INTERNAL REVENUE CODE OF 1986 TO AFFECTED
- 20 Individuals and Employing Agencies.—An individual
- 21 described in subsection (a) and the individual's employing
- 22 agency shall be deemed to have fully satisfied in a timely
- 23 manner their responsibilities with respect to the taxes im-
- 24 posed by sections 3101(a), 3102(a), and 3111(a) of the
- 25 Internal Revenue Code of 1986 on the wages paid by the

- 1 employing agency to such individual during the entire pe-
- 2 riod he or she was erroneously subject to CSRS coverage
- 3 as a result of a retirement coverage error. No credit or
- 4 refund of taxes on such wages shall be allowed as result
- 5 of the operation of this subsection.

#### 6 SEC. 11. FUTURE CSRS COVERAGE DETERMINATIONS.

- 7 No agency shall place an individual under CSRS cov-
- 8 erage unless—
- 9 (1) the individual has been employed with
- 10 CSRS coverage within the preceding 365 days; or
- 11 (2) the Office has agreed in writing that the
- agency's coverage determination is correct.

#### 13 SEC. 12. DISCRETIONARY ACTIONS BY DIRECTOR.

- 14 (a) The Director is authorized to take any of the fol-
- 15 lowing actions—
- 16 (1) extend the deadlines for making elections
- 17 under this Act in circumstances involving an individ-
- ual's inability to make a timely election due to cause
- beyond the individual's control;
- 20 (2) provide for the reimbursement of necessary
- and reasonable expenses incurred by an individual
- 22 with respect to settlement of a claim for losses re-
- sulting from a retirement coverage error, including
- 24 attorney's fees, court costs, and other actual ex-
- 25 penses;

- 1 (3) compensate an individual for monetary
- 2 losses that are a direct and proximate result of a re-
- 3 tirement coverage error, excluding claimed losses re-
- 4 lating to forgone contributions and earnings under
- 5 the Thrift Savings Plan under subchapter III of
- 6 chapter 84 of title 5, United States Code, and all
- 7 other investment opportunities; and
- 8 (4) waive repayments otherwise required under
- 9 this Act.
- 10 (b) In exercising the authority under this section, the
- 11 Director shall, to the extent practicable, provide for simi-
- 12 lar actions in situations involving similar circumstances.
- 13 (c) Actions taken under this section are final and con-
- 14 clusive, and are not subject to administrative or judicial
- 15 review on any basis.
- 16 (d) The Office of Personnel Management shall pre-
- 17 scribe regulations regarding the process and criteria used
- 18 in exercising the authority under this section.
- 19 (e) The Office of Personnel Management shall, within
- 20 six months after the date of enactment of this Act, and
- 21 annually thereafter for each year in which the authority
- 22 provided in this section is used, submit a report to each
- 23 House of Congress on the operation of this section.

#### 1 SEC. 13. THRIFT PLAN TREATMENT FOR CERTAIN INDIVID-

| 1  | SEC. 15. IHRIFT FLAN TREATMENT FOR CERTAIN INDIVID-          |
|----|--|
| 2  | UALS.  |
| 3  | (a) This section applies to an individual who—               |
| 4  | (1) is eligible to make an election of coverage              |
| 5  | under section 8 or section 9, and only if FERS cov-          |
| 6  | erage is elected (or remains in effect) for the em-          |
| 7  | ployee involved; or  |
| 8  | (2) is an employee (or former employee, annu-                |
| 9  | itant, or survivor, subject to conditions similar to         |
| 10 | those in section 8 and 9) in the case of a retirement        |
| 11 | coverage error in which a FERS covered employee              |
| 12 | was erroneously Social Security-only covered and is          |
| 13 | corrected to FERS coverage.                                  |
| 14 | (b)(1) With respect to an individual to whom this sec-       |
| 15 | tion applies, the Director shall pay to the Thrift Savings   |
| 16 | Fund under subchapter III of chapter 84 of title 5, United   |
| 17 | States Code, for credit to the account of the employee in-   |
| 18 | volved, an amount equal to the earnings which are dis-       |
| 19 | allowed under section 8432a of such title 5 on the employ-   |
| 20 | ee's retroactive contributions to such Fund. Such amount     |
| 21 | shall represent earnings, on such retroactive contributions, |
| 22 | during the period of the retirement coverage error and       |
| 23 | continuing up to the date on which the amount is paid        |
| 24 | by the Director (and based on distributions from the em-     |
| 25 | ployee's Thrift Savings Plan account). Such earnings shall   |

26 be computed in accordance with the procedures for com-

- 1 puting lost earnings under such section 8432a. The
- 2 amount paid by the Director shall be treated for all pur-
- 3 poses as if that amount had actually been earned on the
- 4 basis of the employee's contributions.
- 5 (2) In cases in which the retirement coverage error
- 6 was corrected prior to the effective date of the regulations
- 7 under section 8(c) or section 9(b), the employee involved
- 8 (including an employee described in subsection (a)(2))
- 9 shall have an additional opportunity to make retroactive
- 10 contributions for the period of the retirement coverage
- 11 error (subject to applicable limits), and such contributions
- 12 shall be treated in accordance with the provisions of para-
- 13 graph (1).
- 14 (c) The Office, in consultation with the Federal Re-
- 15 tirement Thrift Investment Board, shall prescribe regula-
- 16 tions appropriate to carry out this section.

#### 17 SEC. 14. AUTHORIZATION AND APPROPRIATION.

- All payments permitted or required by this Act to be
- 19 paid from the Civil Service Retirement and Disability
- 20 Fund, together with administrative expenses incurred by
- 21 the Office in administering this Act, shall be deemed to
- 22 have been authorized to be paid from that Fund, which
- 23 is appropriated for the payment thereof.

### 1 SEC. 15. SERVICE CREDIT DEPOSITS.

| 2  | (a) In the case of a retirement coverage error in          |
|----|--|
| 3  | which—   |
| 4  | (1) a FERS covered employee was erroneously                |
| 5  | CSRS covered or CSRS Offset covered;                       |
| 6  | (2) the employee made a service credit deposit             |
| 7  | under the CSRS rules; and                                  |
| 8  | (3) there is a subsequent retroactive change to            |
| 9  | FERS coverage;   |
| 10 | the excess of the amount of the CSRS civilian or military  |
| 11 | service credit deposit over the FERS civilian or military  |
| 12 | service credit deposit, together with interest computed in |
| 13 | accordance with paragraphs (2) and (3) of section 8334(e)  |
| 14 | of title 5, United States Code and regulations prescribed  |
| 15 | by the Office, shall be a paid to the annuitant or, in the |
| 16 | case of a deceased employee, to the individual entitled to |
| 17 | lump-sum benefits under section $8342(e)$ or $8424(d)$ of  |
| 18 | title 5, United States Code, as applicable.                |
| 19 | (b)(1) This subsection applies in the case of an erro-     |
| 20 | neous retirement coverage determination in which—          |
| 21 | (A) the employee made a service credit deposit             |
| 22 | under the FERS rules; and                                  |
| 23 | (B) there is a subsequent retroactive change to            |
| 24 | CSRS or CSRS Offset coverage.                              |
| 25 | (2) If at the time of commencement of an annuity           |
| 26 | there is remaining unpaid any excess of the CSRS civilian  |

- 1 or military service credit deposit over the FERS civilian
- 2 or military service credit deposit, the annuity shall be re-
- 3 duced based upon the amount unpaid together with inter-
- 4 est computed in accordance with paragraphs (2) and (3)
- 5 of section 8334(e) of title 5, United States Code and regu-
- 6 lations prescribed by the Office. The reduced annuity to
- 7 which the individual is entitled shall be equal to an amount
- 8 that, when taken together with the amount referred to in
- 9 the preceding sentence, would result in the present value
- 10 of the total being actuarially equivalent to the present
- 11 value of an unreduced CSRS Offset annuity that would
- 12 have been provided the individual.
- 13 (3) If at the time of commencement of a survivor an-
- 14 nuity, there is remaining unpaid any excess of the CSRS
- 15 service credit deposit over the FERS service credit de-
- 16 posit, and there has been no actuarial reduction in an an-
- 17 nuity under the preceding paragraph, the survivor annuity
- 18 shall be reduced based upon the amount unpaid together
- 19 with interest computed in accordance with paragraphs (2)
- 20 and (3) of section 8334(e) of title 5, United States Code
- 21 and regulations prescribed by the Office. The reduced sur-
- 22 vivor annuity to which the individual is entitled shall be
- 23 equal to an amount that, when taken together with the
- 24 amount referred to in the preceding sentence, would result
- 25 in the present value of the total being actuarially equiva-

- 1 lent to the present value of an unreduced CSRS Offset
- 2 survivor annuity that would have been provided the indi-
- 3 vidual.

#### 4 SEC. 16. REGULATIONS.

- 5 (a) In addition to the regulations specifically author-
- 6 ized in this Act, the Office may prescribe such other regu-
- 7 lations as are necessary for the administration of this Act.
- 8 (b) The regulations issued under this Act shall pro-
- 9 vide for protection of the rights of a former spouse with
- 10 entitlement to an apportionment of benefits or to survivor
- 11 benefits based on the service of the employee.
- 12 SEC. 17. EFFECTIVE DATE.
- Except as otherwise provided herein, this Act shall
- 14 be effective on the date of enactment.

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